





PTO/SB/05 (12/97)

Approved for use through 09/30/00. OMB 0651-0032 Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)) Attorney Docket No. | ITWO:0023 | Total Pages | 136 First Named Inventor or Application Identifier Jeffrey R. Thomas et al. Express Mail Label No. | EK 229 729 564 US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS							Assistant Commissioner for Patents	
See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.				ADDRESS TO:			Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231	
1.	\boxtimes	Fee Transmittal Form		6.		Microfiche Con	nputer Pro	gram (Appendix)
2.	\boxtimes	•	eferred arrangement set forth below)		Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)			
	-Cross References to Related Application -Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D -Reference to Microfiche Appendix -Background of the Invention -Brief Summary of the Invention -Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) -Detailed Description -Claim(s)			 a.				
-Abstract of the Disclosure								
	_			<u> </u>	ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS			
3.	M .		otal Sheets 21 otal Pages 63	8.	\boxtimes	Assignment Pap	ers (cove	sheet & document(s))
				9.		37 CFR 3.73(E) (where there is	•	
4.	Oath	or Declaration		10.		-		nent (i <u>f applicable)</u>
	a. b.	Newly executed (original or copy) Copy from a prior application (37CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed) [Note Box 5 below] DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting enventor(s) named in the prior application,		11.		Information Disclosure Copies of IDS Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations		
				12.		Preliminary Amendment		
5.		see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked) The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by		13.		Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) Small Entity Statement filed in prior application Statement(s) Status still proper and desired		
		reference therein.	y incorporated by					
				15.		Certified Copy (if foreign priority		
				16.	\boxtimes	Other PTO-20	•	-
17	17 Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No:/							
18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS								
Customer Number or Bar Code Label								
(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)								
NAME Ralph A. Graham								
. ⊢		·	Fletcher, Yoder & Van Someren					
		P.O. Box 692289						
CITY		Houston	STATE	Texa	s	Z	IP CODE	77269-2289
COUNTRY		USA	TELEPHONE		(281) 970-4545		Fax	(281) 970-4503



CONFIRMATION NO. 9675

Ralph A. Graham Fletcher, Yoder & Van Someren P.O. Box 692289 Houston, TX 77269-2289

COPY OF PAPL.
ORIGINALLY FILED

FORMALITIES LETTER

OC000000007196740

Date Mailed: 12/14/2001

NOTICE OF OMITTED ITEM(S) IN A NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

A filing date has been accorded to the above-identified nonprovisional application papers; however, the following item(s) appear to have been omitted from the application:

- Figure(s) 16 described in the specification.
- I. Should applicant contend that the above-noted omitted item(s) was in fact deposited in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with the nonprovisional application papers, a copy of this Notice and a petition (and \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h))) with evidence of such deposit must be filed within TWO MONTHS of the date of this Notice. The petition fee will be refunded if is determined that the item(s) was received by the USPTO.
- II. Should applicant desire to supply the omitted item(s) and accept the date that such omitted item(s) was filed in the USPTO as the filing date of the above-identified application, a copy of this Notice, the omitted item(s) (with a supplemental oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 and 1.64 referring to such items), and a petition under 37 CFR 1.182 (with the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h)) requesting the later filing date must be filed within TWO MONTHS of the date of this Notice.
- III. The failure to file a petition (and petition fee) under the above options (I) or (II) within TWO MONTHS of the date of this Notice (37 CFR 1.181(f)) will be treated as a constructive acceptance by the applicant of the application as deposited in the USPTO. THIS TWO MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b). In the absence of a timely filed petition in reply to this Notice, the application will maintain a filing date as of the date of deposit of the application papers in the USPTO, and original application papers (i.e., the original disclosure of the invention) will include only those application papers present in the USPTO on the date of deposit.

In the event that applicant elects not to take action pursuant to options (I) or (II) above (thereby constructively electing option (III)), amendment of the specification to renumber the pages consecutively and cancel incomplete sentences caused by any omitted page(s), and/or amendment of the specification to cancel all references to any omitted drawing(s), relabel the drawing figures to be numbered consecutively (if necessary), and correct the references in the specification to the drawing figures to correspond with any relabelled drawing figures, is required. Any drawing changes should be accompanied by a copy of the drawing figures showing the proposed changes in red ink. Such amendment and/or correction to the drawing figures, if necessary, should be by way of preliminary amendment submitted prior to the first Office action to avoid delays in the prosecution of the application.

A copy of this notice <u>MUST</u> be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202
PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE